

E-FILED ON 26 JANUARY 2007

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of inventor(s):

C. Brent Dane et al.

Application No. 10/766,635

Filing Date: 28 January 2004

Title: Stimulated Brillouin Scattering Mirror
System, High Power Laser and Laser
Peening Method and System Using Same

Confirmation No. 3746

Group Art Unit: 2828

Examiner: Dung (Michael) Nguyen

CUSTOMER NO. 22470

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

In the Notice of Allowance for the referenced application mailed 13 December 2006, Examiner Nguyen's statement of reasons for allowance (hereinafter referred to as the "REASONS") of claims 14 and 20 read:

"The remarks filed on 11/02/06 are persuasive regarding the Dane et al. and Crofts et al. prior art taken singly or combined failed to teach the limitations of a baffle in claim 20, a beam splitter between the first SBS cell and the relay telescope, and an alignment detector in claim 14. However, the examiner disagrees with the argument that Dane et al. indeed teach a relay telescope on page 149, first column, section A. Relay Imaging."

Applicants submit the following comments to the Examiner's statement.

The Examiner only disputes our statement that Dane et al. do not teach using a relay telescope (to relay an image). We recognize that Dane et al. do teach using a relay telescope to relay an image within their laser (page 149 of Dane et al.) but they do not teach using such a device in an SBS mirror system.

Applicants believe that the REASONS, to the extent understood, may be misconstrued and, as such, are incomplete. Applicants submit that indeed, the claims of the instant application, individually or in combination with other claims (via dependency), describe the patentable subject matter of Applicants invention(s). Accordingly, the REASONS in no way bind or affect the interpretation, infringement, validity and/or enforceability of any claim(s) or patent(s) resulting from, or relating to this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 26 JAN 2007



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